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31. (Amended Once) The composition of claim 29 where said lubricating composition consists essentially of a superabsorbent polymer combined with a material for decreasing friction between moving surfaces, where said superabsorbent polymer absorbs greater than about 100 times its weight in water and is a polymer of acrylic acid, an acrylic ester, acrylonitrile, acrylamide, co-polymers thereof or mixtures thereof, wherein said material for decreasing friction is a solid lubricant, wherein said solid lubricant is an inorganic compound, carbon, or metal that provides barrier-layer lubrication, or mixtures thereof, and wherein said material for decreasing friction optionally contains a lubricant additive, wherein said lubricant additive is an antioxidant, rust inhibitor, antiwear compound, extreme pressure additive, detergent, dispersant, pour point depressant, viscosity-index improver, or foam inhibitor.

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34. (Amended Once) The composition of claim 33 where said solid organic lubricant is a fluoroalkylene homopolymer or copolymer, a lower alkylene polyolefin homopolymer or co-polymer, a paraffinic hydrocarbon wax, phenanthrene, copper phthalocyanine, or mixtures thereof.

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36. (Amended Once) The composition of claim 29 consisting essentially of a superabsorbent polymer with a material for decreasing friction between moving surfaces, wherein said superabsorbent polymer absorbs greater than about 100 times its weight in water and is a polymer of acrylic acid, an acrylic ester, acrylonitrile, acrylamide, co-polymers thereof or mixtures thereof, wherein said material for

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decreasing friction is an oil or greases thereof and water, optionally containing a lubricant additive, wherein said lubricant additive is an antioxidant, rust inhibitor, antiwear compound, extreme pressure additive, detergent, dispersant, pour point depressant, viscosity-index improver, or foam inhibitor.

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37. (Amended Once) The composition of claim 29 consisting essentially of a superabsorbent polymer with a material for decreasing friction between moving surfaces, wherein said superabsorbent polymer absorbs greater than about 100 times its weight in water and is a polymer of acrylic acid, an acrylic ester, acrylonitrile, acrylamide, co-polymers thereof or mixtures thereof, wherein said material for decreasing friction is a solid lubricant and water, optionally containing a lubricant additive, wherein said lubricant additive is an antioxidant, rust inhibitor, antiwear compound, extreme pressure additive, detergent, dispersant, pour point depressant, viscosity-index improver, or foam inhibitor.

38. (Amended Once) The composition of claim 37 where said solid lubricant is graphite, molybdenum disulfide, cobalt chloride, antimony oxide, niobium selenide, tungsten disulfide, mica, boron nitride, silver sulfate, cadmium chloride, cadmium iodide, borax, basic white lead, lead carbonate, lead iodide, asbestos, talc, zinc oxide, carbon, babbit, bronze, brass, aluminum, gallium, indium, thallium, thorium, copper, silver, gold, mercury, lead, tin, indium, the Group VIII noble metals, a fluoroalkylene homopolymer or copolymer, a lower alkylene polyolefin homopolymer or co-polymer, a paraffinic hydrocarbon wax, phenanthrene, copper phthalocyanine, or mixtures thereof.

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40. (Amended Once) The composition of claim 39 where said material for decreasing friction is zinc phosphate, iron phosphate or manganese phosphate, or mixtures thereof.

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41. (Amended Once) The composition of claim 29 where said lubricating composition consists essentially of a superabsorbent polymer combined with a material for decreasing friction between moving surfaces, where said superabsorbent polymer absorbs greater than about 100 times its weight in water and is a polymer of acrylic acid, an acrylic ester, acrylonitrile, acrylamide, co-polymers thereof or mixtures thereof, wherein said material for decreasing friction is a fatty oil, fatty acid or wax, or mixtures thereof and wherein said material for decreasing friction optionally contains a lubricant additive, wherein said lubricant additive is an antioxidant, rust inhibitor, antiwear compound, extreme pressure additive, detergent, dispersant, pour point depressant, viscosity-index improver, or foam inhibitor.

REMARKS

The Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112, First Paragraph and Traverse

The Examiner rejects claim 1 and 29-43 for not including the steps for manufacturing applicants' lubricant, such as mixing the lubricant into the superabsorbent polymer prior to or after exposing it to water or high humidity. Applicant, however, has cancelled claim 1 without prejudice or disclaimer, but nonetheless traverses the rejection, since the Examiner also applies it to claims 29-43 as well.